SHIN-HANGA MINIATURES

WOODBLOCKS *by the* WATANABE HANGA-TEN

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SHIN-HANGA MINIATURES

Woodblocks by the Watanabe Hanga-ten

From 5th May, 2017.

Sanders of Oxford is pleased to present an exceptional collection of Japanese woodblock miniatures, published by the Watanabe *hanga-ten* (print-works) and showcasing the works of three masters of the shin-hanga movement: Hasui, Koitsu, and Shotei.

In addition to these exquisite early twentieth century images of the Japanese landscape, the catalogue also features two rare survivals by the young artist Yasuji, whose short life produced some of the Meiji era's most haunting works.

All works are available to purchase and will be on display in the gallery.

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Reference Numbers used in this catalogue:

Brown Brown, Kendall. *Kawase Hasui: The Complete Woodblock Prints*. Amsterdam: Hotei Publishing, 2003.

Kahn Kahn, Marc. *Shotei Seal Collection*. Access: shotei.com/seals

W- *Catalogue of Wood-cut Colour Prints*. Tokyo: Watanabe *hangaten,* 1936.

HASUI
中禅寺
巴水

Kawase Hasui (1883-1957) was the greatest of the *shin-hanga* printmakers, and has come to be recognised as the greatest Japanese landscape artist since Hiroshige. In 1956, he was named a Living National Treasure in Japan, the highest honour a living artist could receive at the time. During his career he produced over 600 landscape prints, including seventeen series, covering most areas of Japan, in which he extensively travelled.

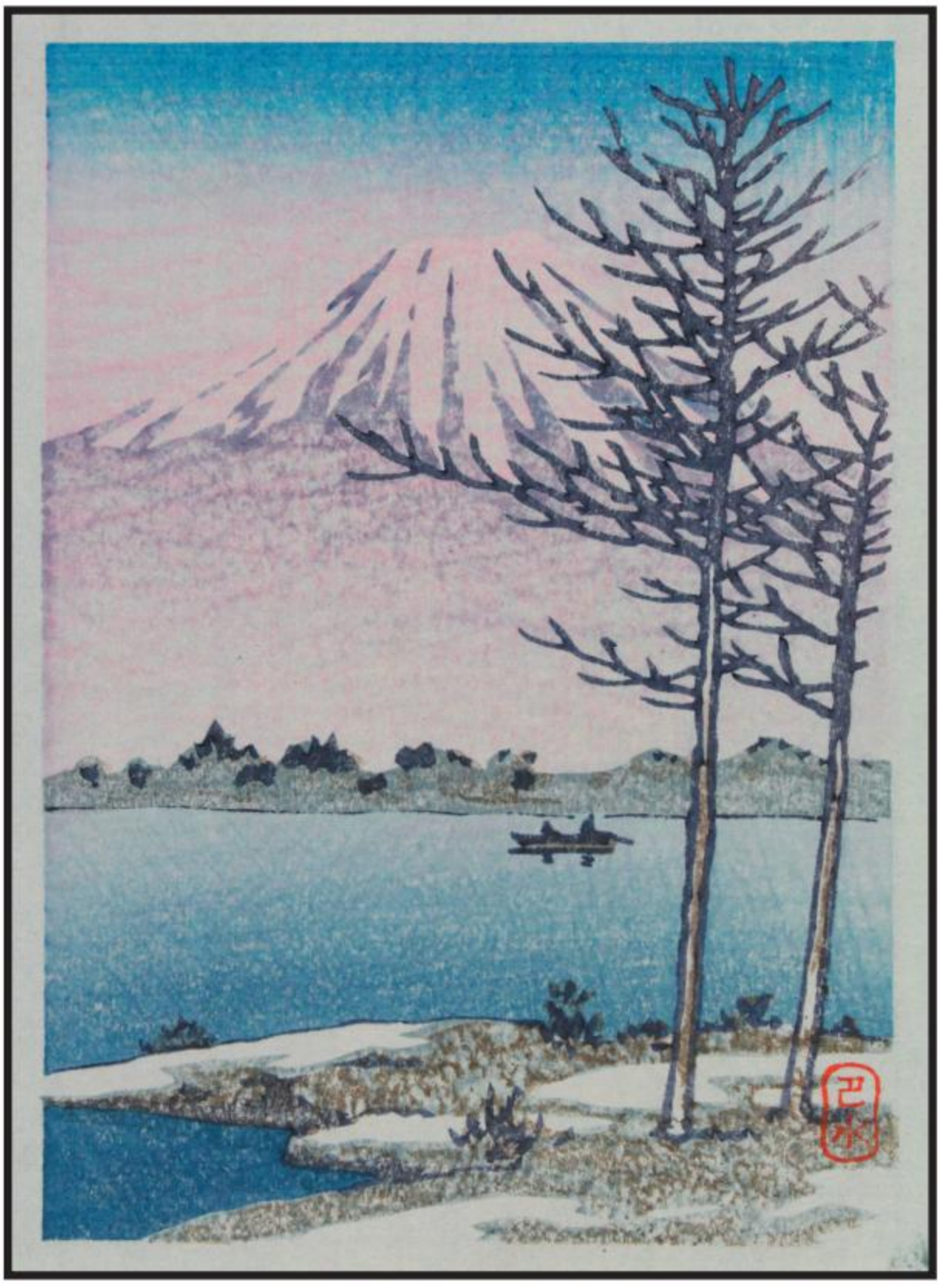
Hasui was born as Kawase Bunjiro in Tokyo. His family owned a braided cord business, in which Hasui worked until his sister and her husband took over in 1908. Free of family responsibilities, Hasui could finally devote himself to art, which he had been passionate about since he was a child. In 1907 he began studying western-style art, especially landscape, at the *Hakuba-kai* (White Horse Society) and took guidance from Okada Saburosuke (1869-1939).

In 1910 he became a pupil of Kaburaki Kiyokata who gave him the art name Hasui. At this time he earned his living through designing *sashi-e*, magazine illustrations, posters and patterns for sashes. Through Kiyokata he was introduced to Shōzaburō Watanabe, who published his first landscape prints in 1918-19. Watanabe was the driving force of the *shin-hanga* movement and encouraged, supported, and promoted Hasui's career in Japan and abroad. From then on Hasui worked extensively as a designer of landscape prints for Watanabe, and from almost the beginning inspired the carvers and printers to produce newer and subtler efforts, especially in the expression of snow.

After the 1923 earthquake, in which he lost his house, his sketchbooks, and almost all of his woodblocks, he was financed by Watanabe to go on a sketching trip to produce more series, and also worked occasionally for other publishers to eke out his income. Through the rest of his life, Hasui worked almost exclusively on landscape and townscape prints based on sketches he made in Tokyo and during travels around Japan. The vast majority of Hasui's prints were published by Shōzaburō Watanabe, although he also occasionally worked with other publishers, including Doi Teiichi and Kawaguchi & Sakai.

In addition to Hasui's main body of work, consisting of over 600 prints, his work was issued in less conventional formats. Watanabe produced a selection of small prints by Hasui in three formats: octavo (approximately 85 x 130 mm), postcard (approximately 85 x 156 mm), and *koban* (115 x 177 mm), and these works are collectively known as Hasui's 'postcard prints.' They were first marketed in the Watanabe *hanga-ten*'s sales catalogue for 1931, and a number were listed in the 1936 Watanabe Catalogue.

Some of the designs are recognisably derived from Hasui's full sized images, while others seem to have been designed specially to be produced in small format. They were intended for use as Christmas cards, the larger ones made into calendars or glued onto scrolls. The postcard prints are unsigned, only have Hasui's seal, and generally do not have a publisher's seal. The images are often surrounded by white borders. Other publishers also released small works by Hasui, including Kato Junji and Bijutsusha.



1. Mount Fuji seen from Lake Hakone
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 102 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-915, Brown Hp-6.
[42613]
£300

2. Evening view of a snow-covered cottage
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 103 mm

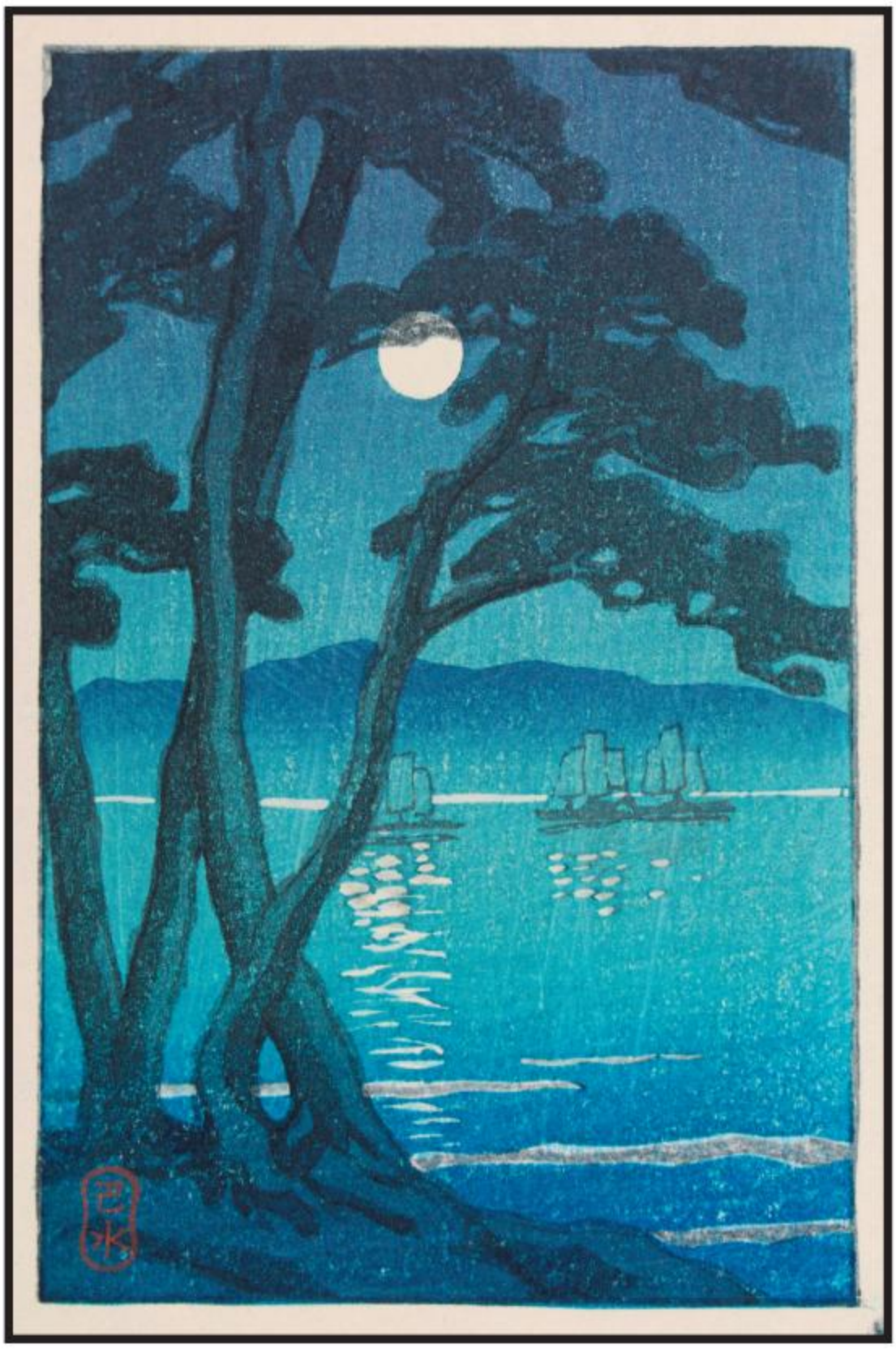
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-76.
[42614]
£250

3. Moored boat in the snow
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 101 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Reference: Brown Hp-31.
[42615]
£350

4. Pagoda in snow
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 101 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-58.
[42616]
£350



5. Boats at Night
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 101 mm

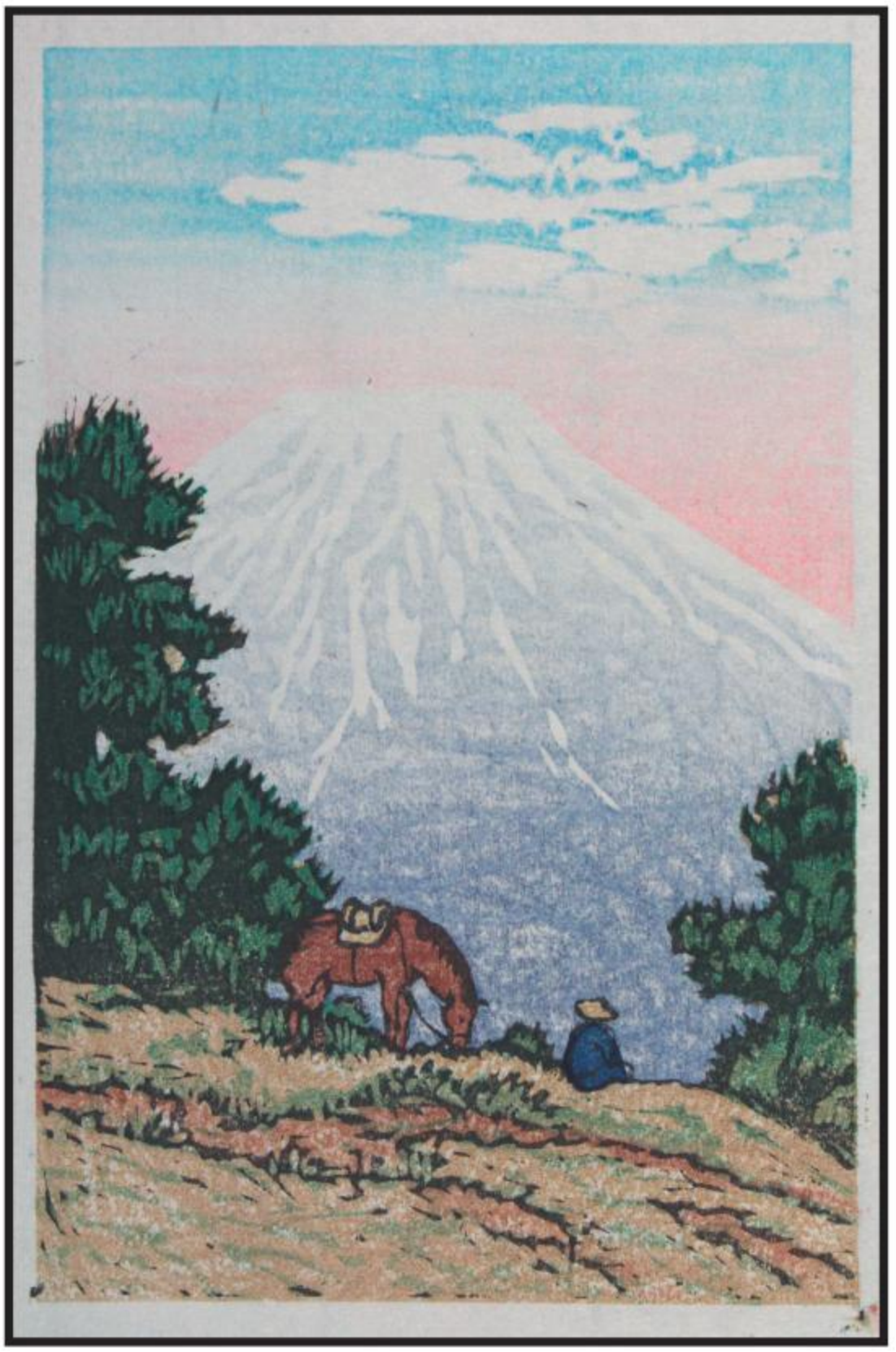
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-21.
[42617]
£350

6. Moonlit night over Toyama plain
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 147 x 96 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-17.
[42618]
£300

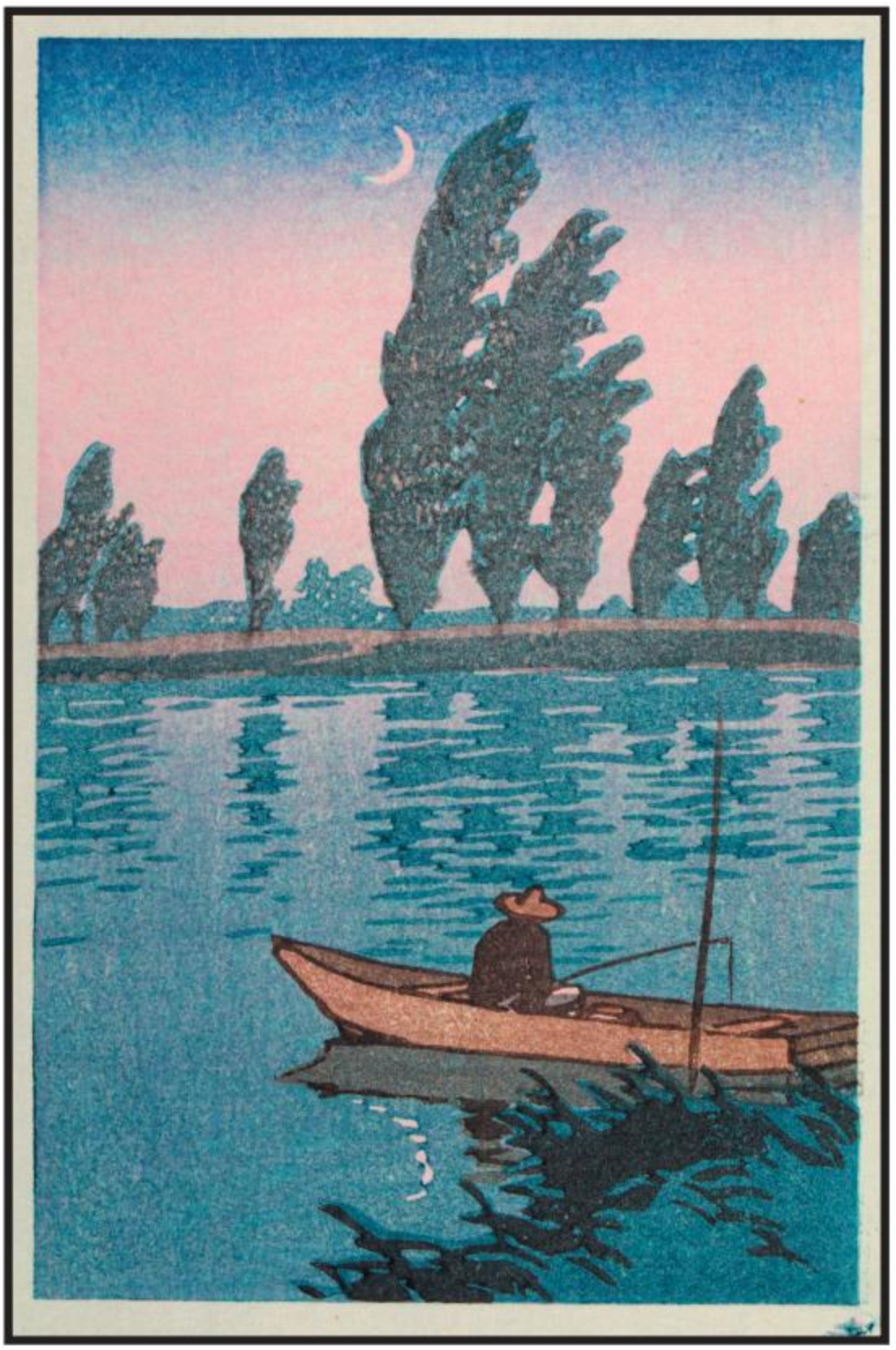
7. *Enkakuji*: Enkaku temple
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 143 x 94 mm, Sheet 147 x 97 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-901, Brown Hp-46.
[42619]
£300



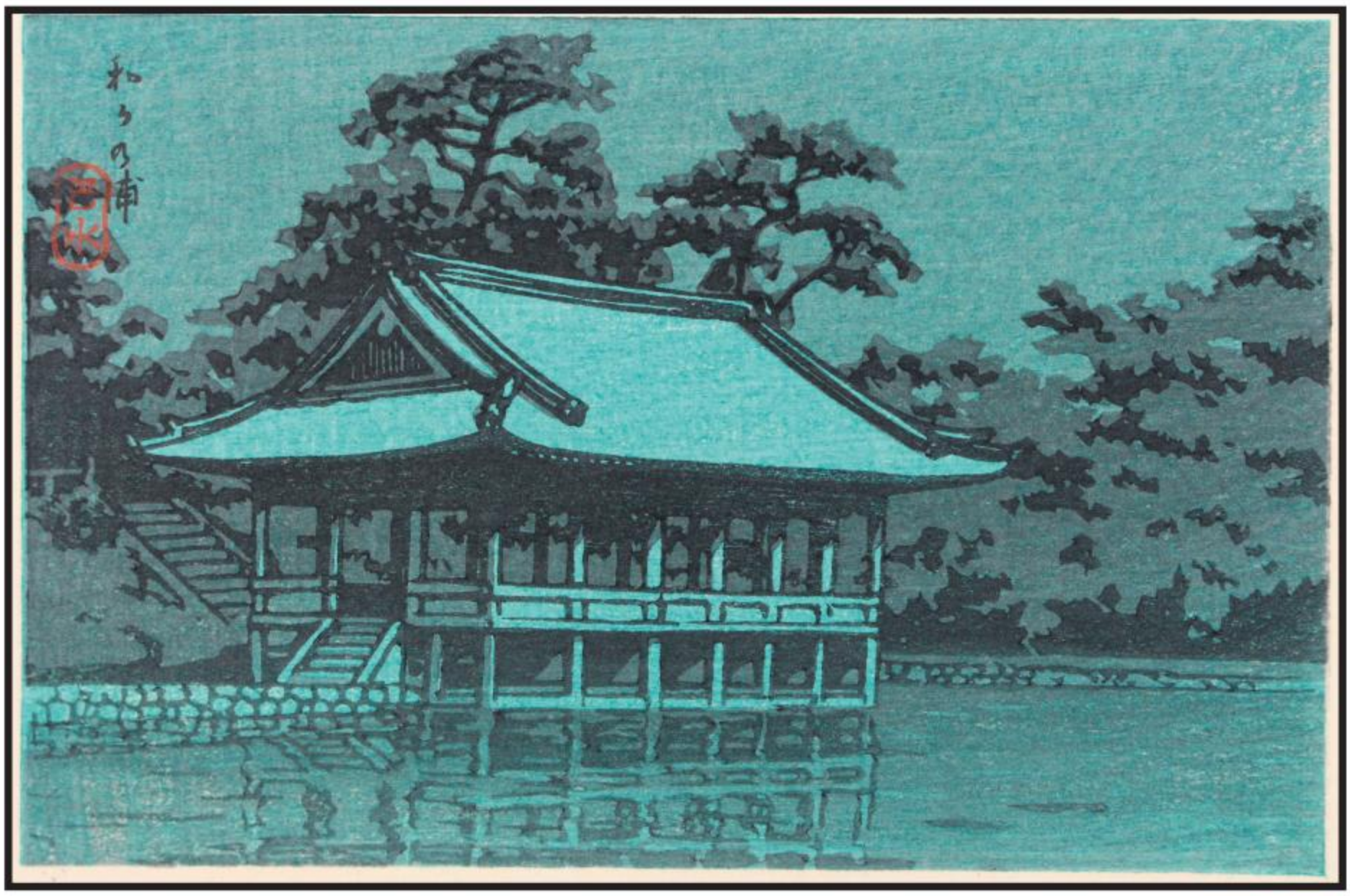
8. Mount Fuji
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 142 x 92 mm, Sheet 151 x 100 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-11.
[42620]
£300



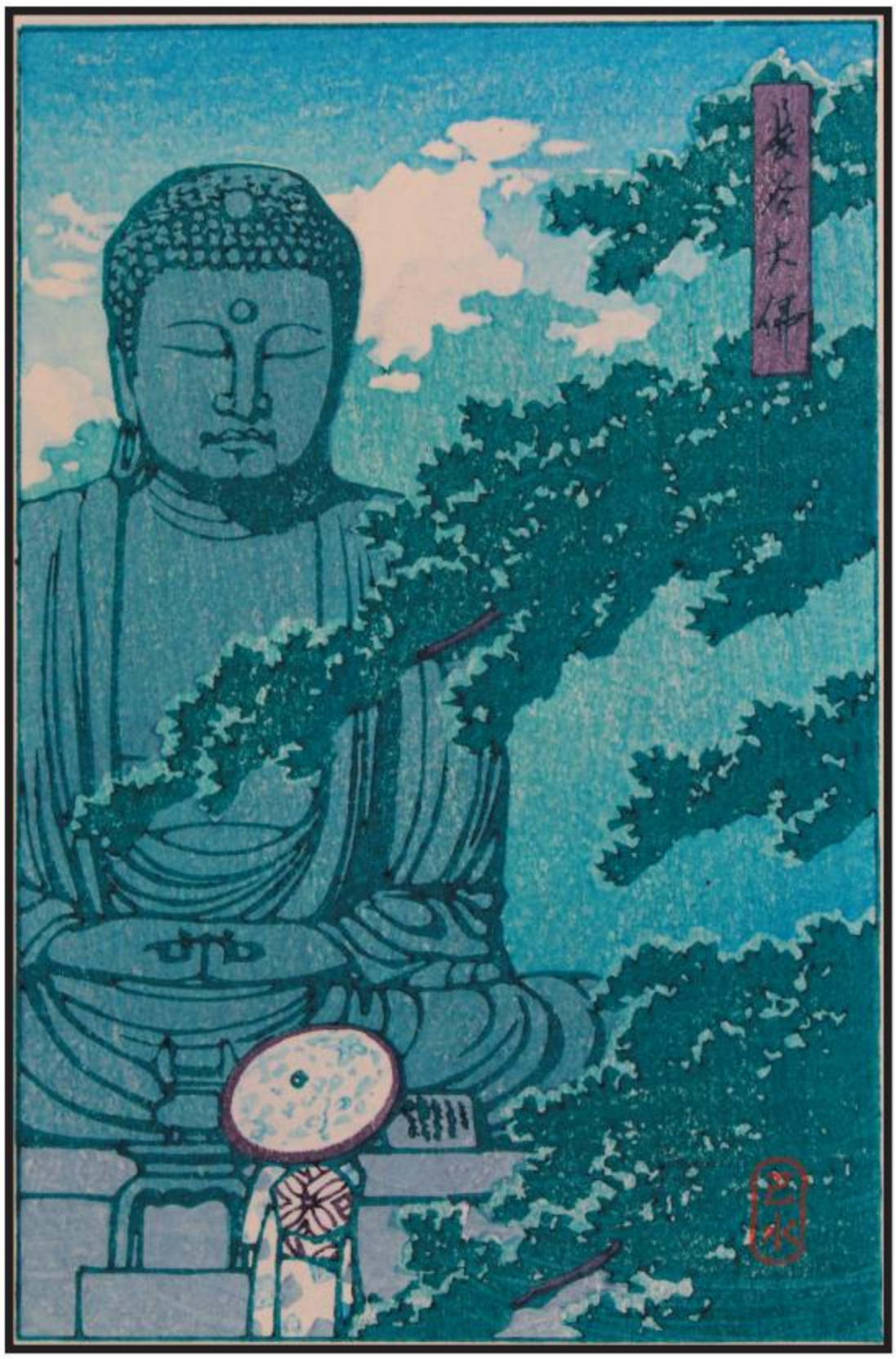
9. Man fishing on a moonlit night
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 150 x 100 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Reference: Brown Hp-38.
[42621]
£250



10. Wakanoura
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 95 x 145 mm, Sheet 98 x 149 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-63.
[42622]
£250



11. *Hase Daibutsu*: Great Buddha, Kamakura
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 94 mm, Sheet 147 x 97 mm

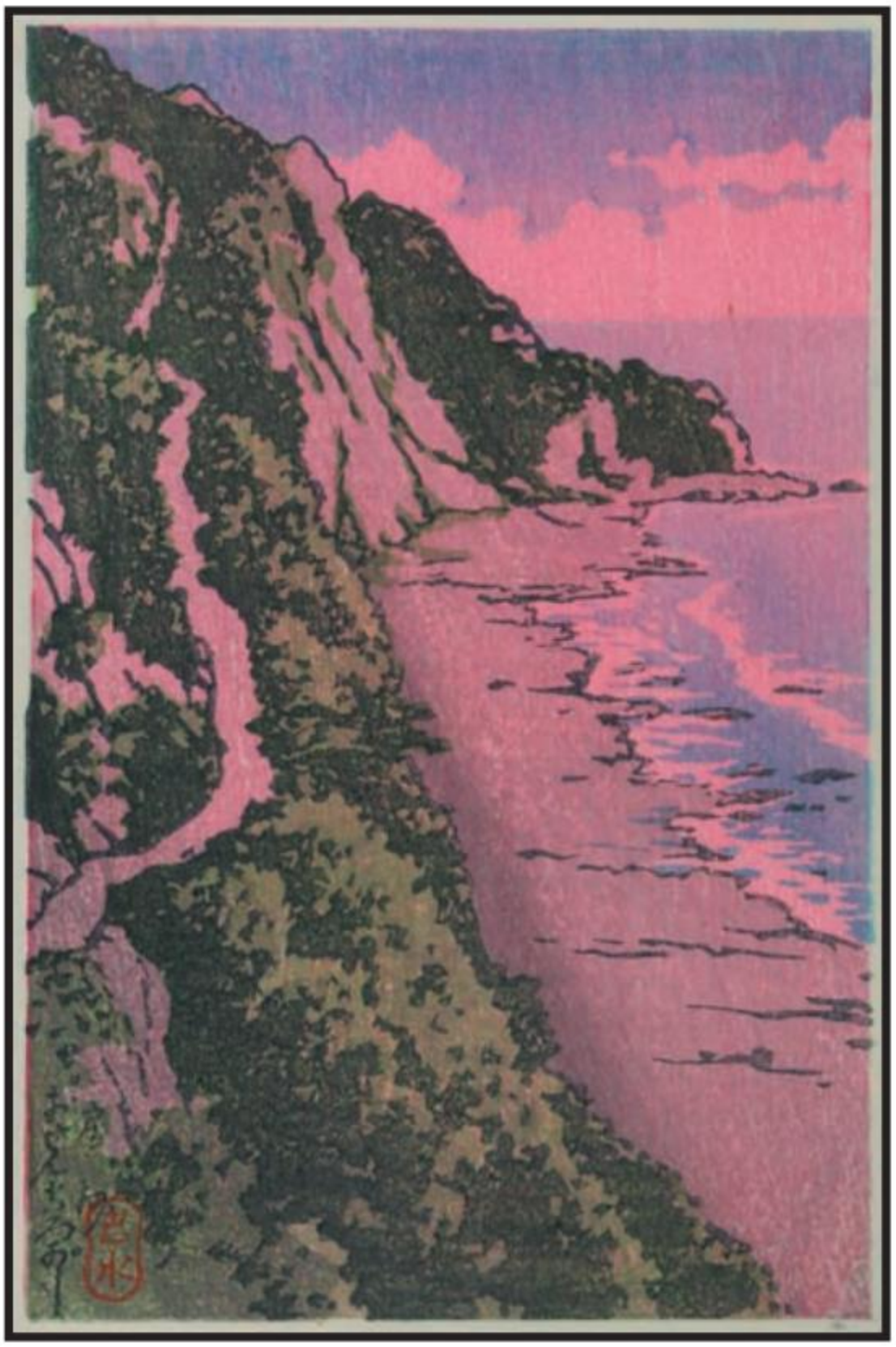
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-53.
[42623]
£300

12. Matsushima
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 92 x 141 mm, Sheet 99 x 149 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-43.
[42624]
£250

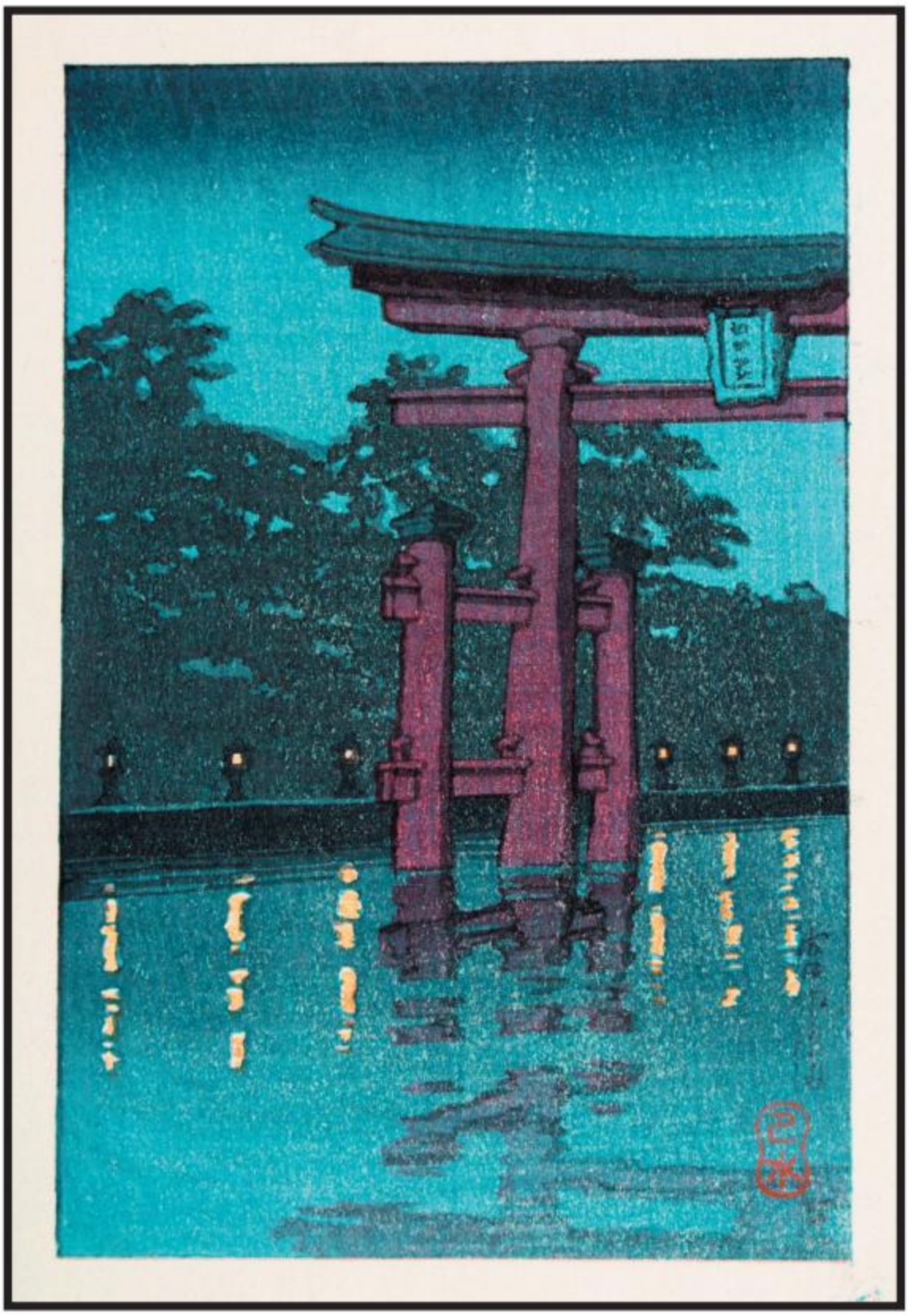
13. Hachiman Temple, Kamakura
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 93 mm, Sheet 150 x 97 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown (unlisted).
[42625]
£300



14. Cliffs at Sunset
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 143 x 94 mm, Sheet 149 x 98 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown (unlisted).
[42626]
£300



15. *Miyajima no yoru*: Miyajima at night
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 145 x 95 mm, Sheet 159 x 110 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-899, Brown Hp-52.
[42627]
£350

16. *Chûzenji Utagahama:* Chuzen temple, Utagahama
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 145 x 95 mm, Sheet 159 x 108 mm

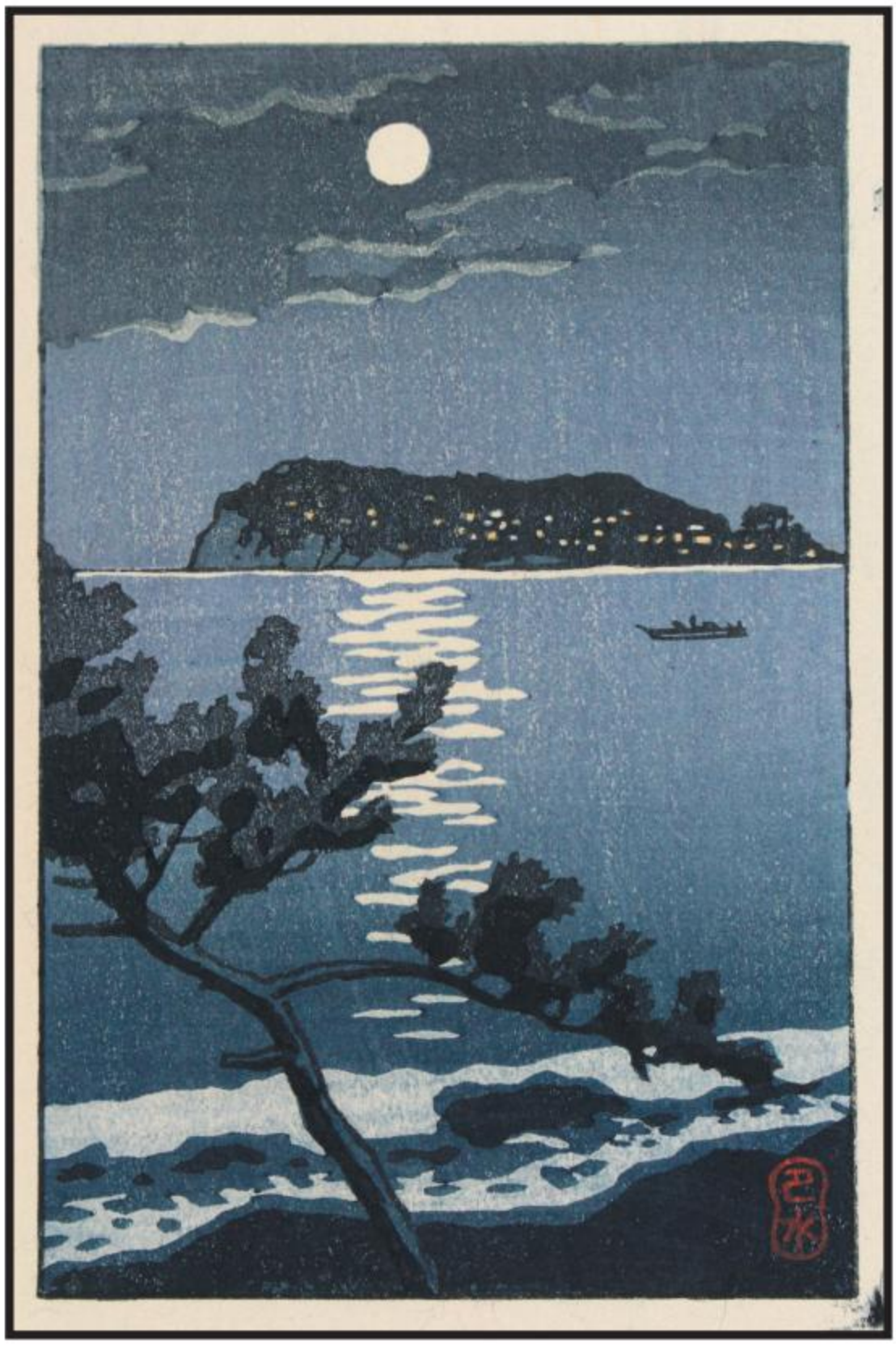
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-900, Brown Hp-50.
[42628]
£350

17. *Kyoto Kinkakuji*: Golden pavilion, Kyoto
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 143 x 94 mm, Sheet 158 x 109 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-896, Brown Hp-45.
[42629]
£350

18. Terajima in the snow
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 9 mm, Sheet 154 x 105 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-886, Brown Hp-69.
[42630]
£350



19. Enoshima at night
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 92 mm, Sheet 153 x 103 mm

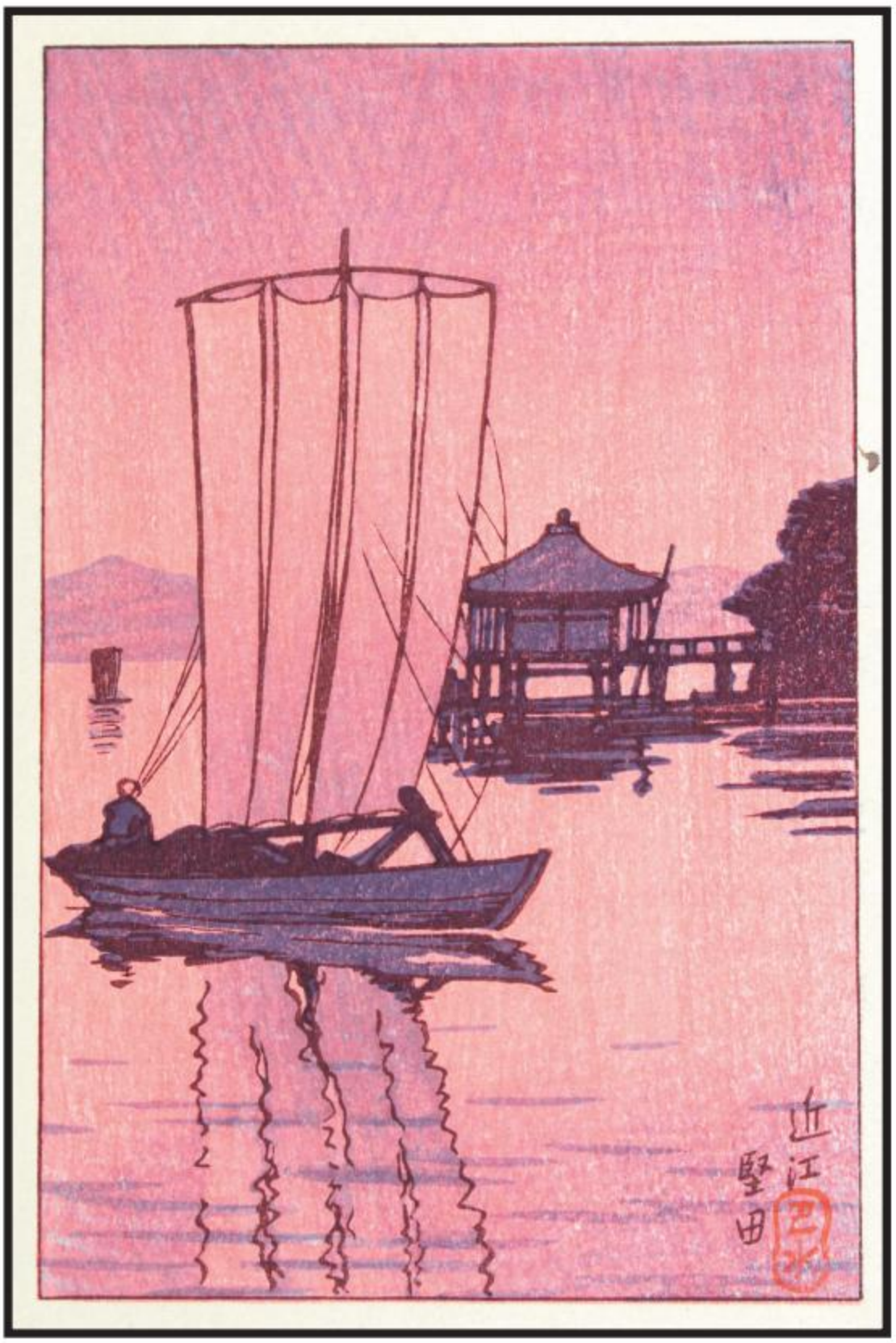
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-879, Brown Hp-23.
[42631]
£350

20. Snowscape, a fisherman
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 142 x 90 mm, Sheet 163 x 104 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-68.
[42632]
£350

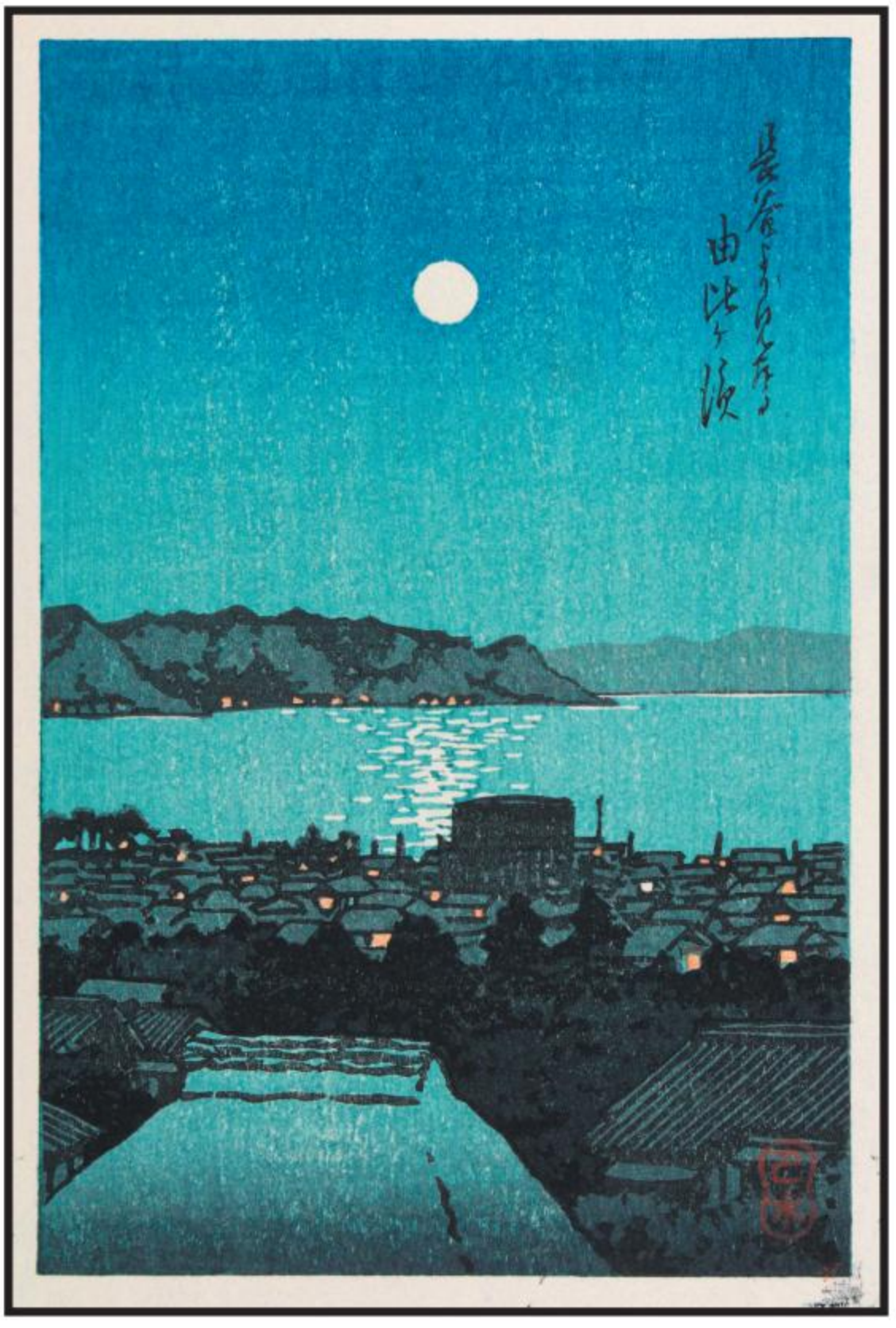
21. Temple in the Rain
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 94 mm, Sheet 154 x 103 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown (unlisted).
[42633]
£350



22. *Omi, Katada*: Katada, Omi
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 93 mm, Sheet 153 x 103 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-897, Brown Hp-29a (purplish-pink version of Hp-29).
[42634]
£300

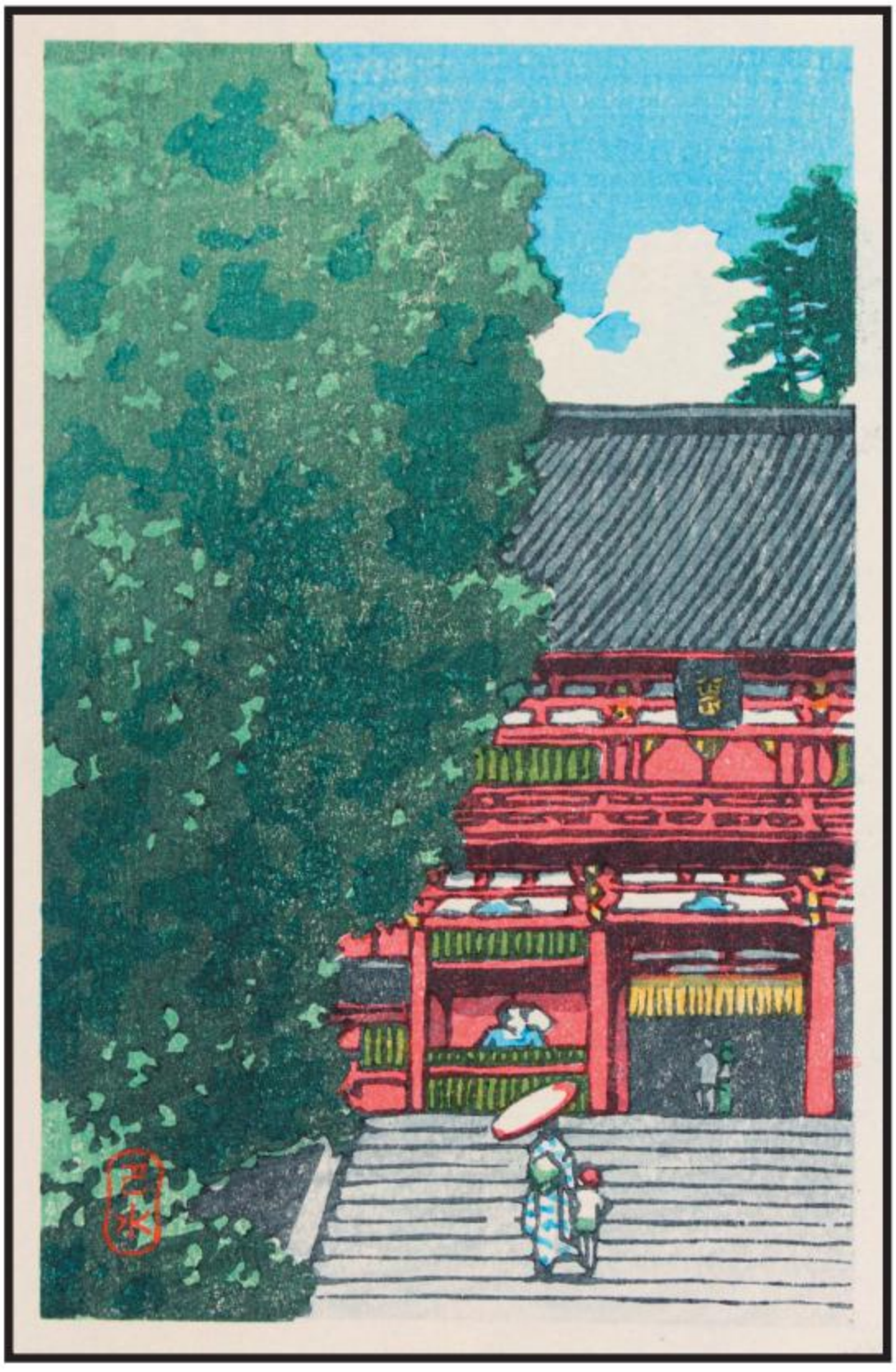


23. *Hase yori Yuigahama wo nozomu*: A view of Yui beach from Hase, Kamakura
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 144 x 94 mm, Sheet 152 x 103 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-904, Brown Hp-20.
[42636]
£350

24. *Fuji no fuyu:* Mount Fuji in winter
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 145 x 94 mm, Sheet 156 x 105 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: W-893, Brown Hp-10b (one of three versions of Hp-10, this one in grey).
[42637]
£350

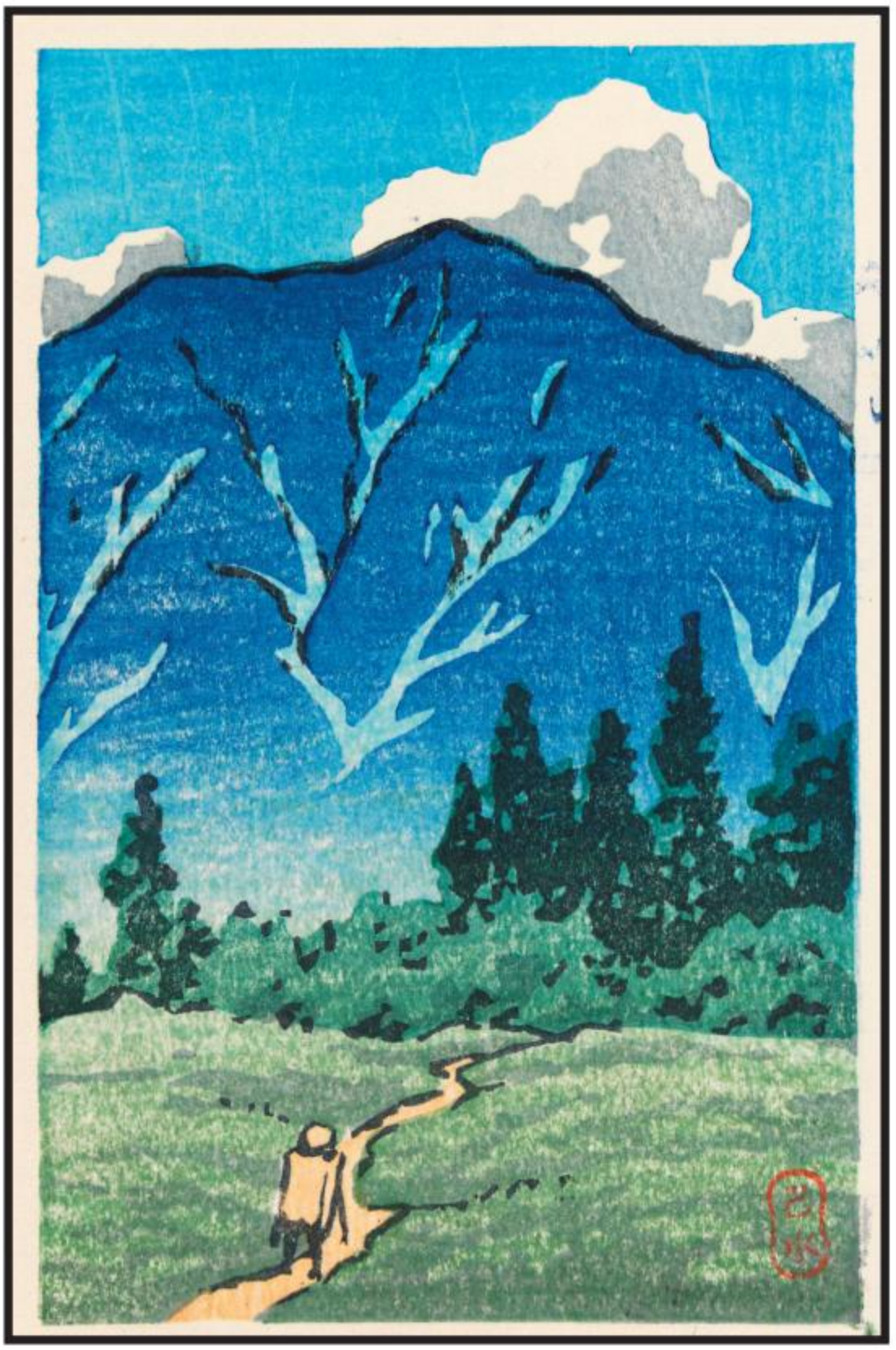


25. Tsurugaoka Hachiman shrine, Kamakura
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 89 mm, Sheet 151 x 98 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-51.
[42638]
£300

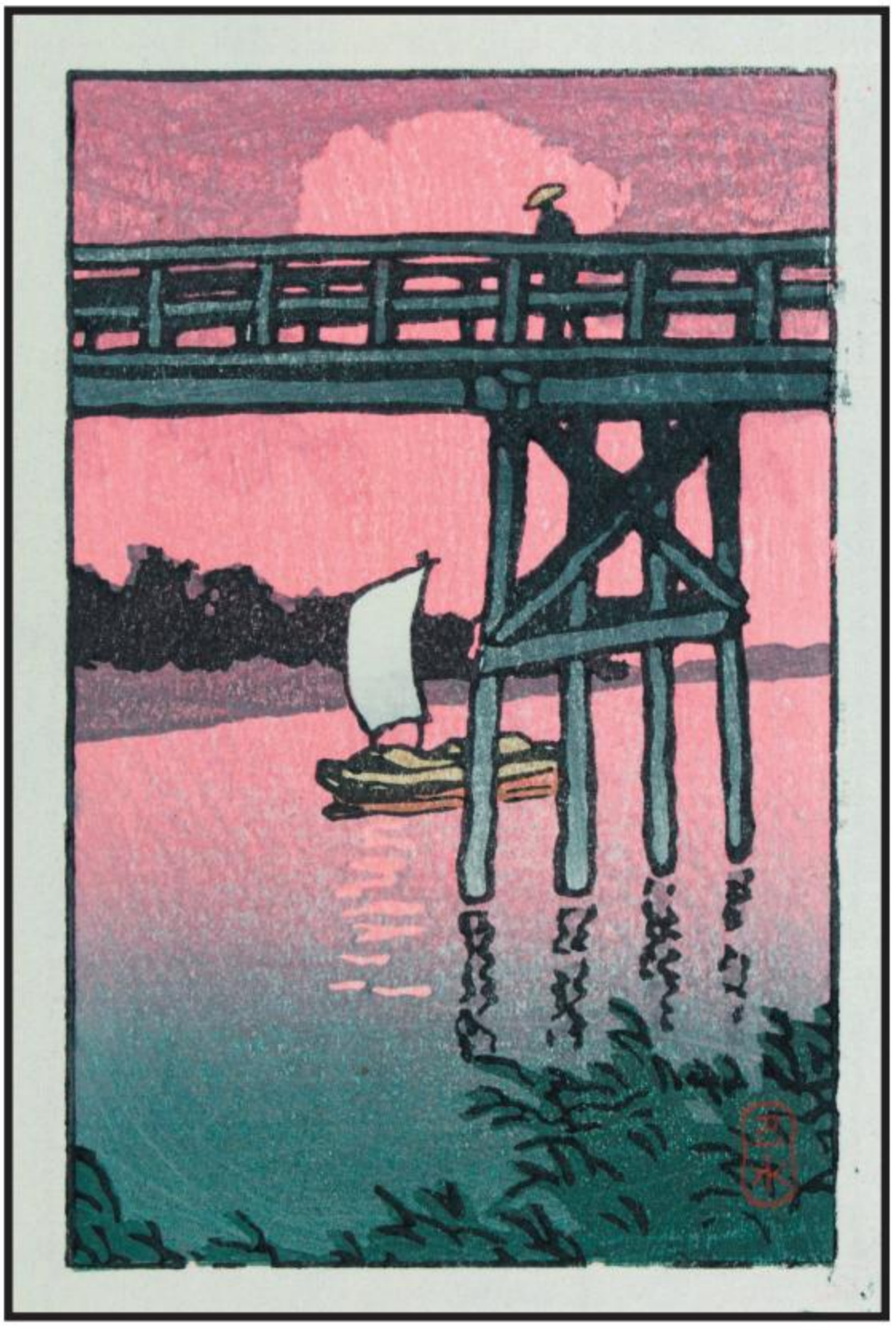
26. Vermillion-lacquered temple gate in snow
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 142 x 92 mm, Sheet 152 x 95 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-48.
[42639]
£350



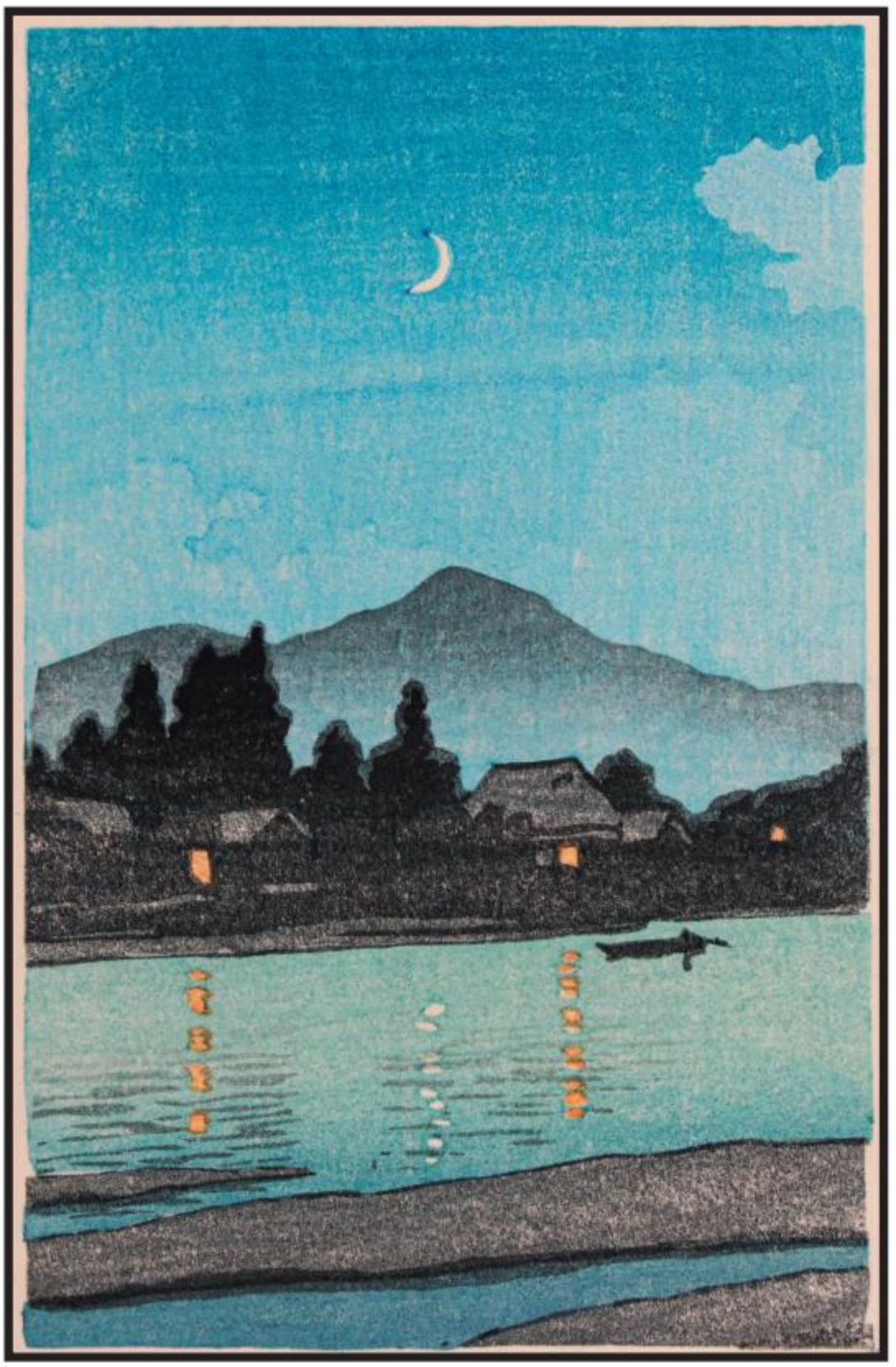
27. A mountain walk in summer
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 139 x 90 mm, Sheet 148 x 98 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-16.
[42640]
£250



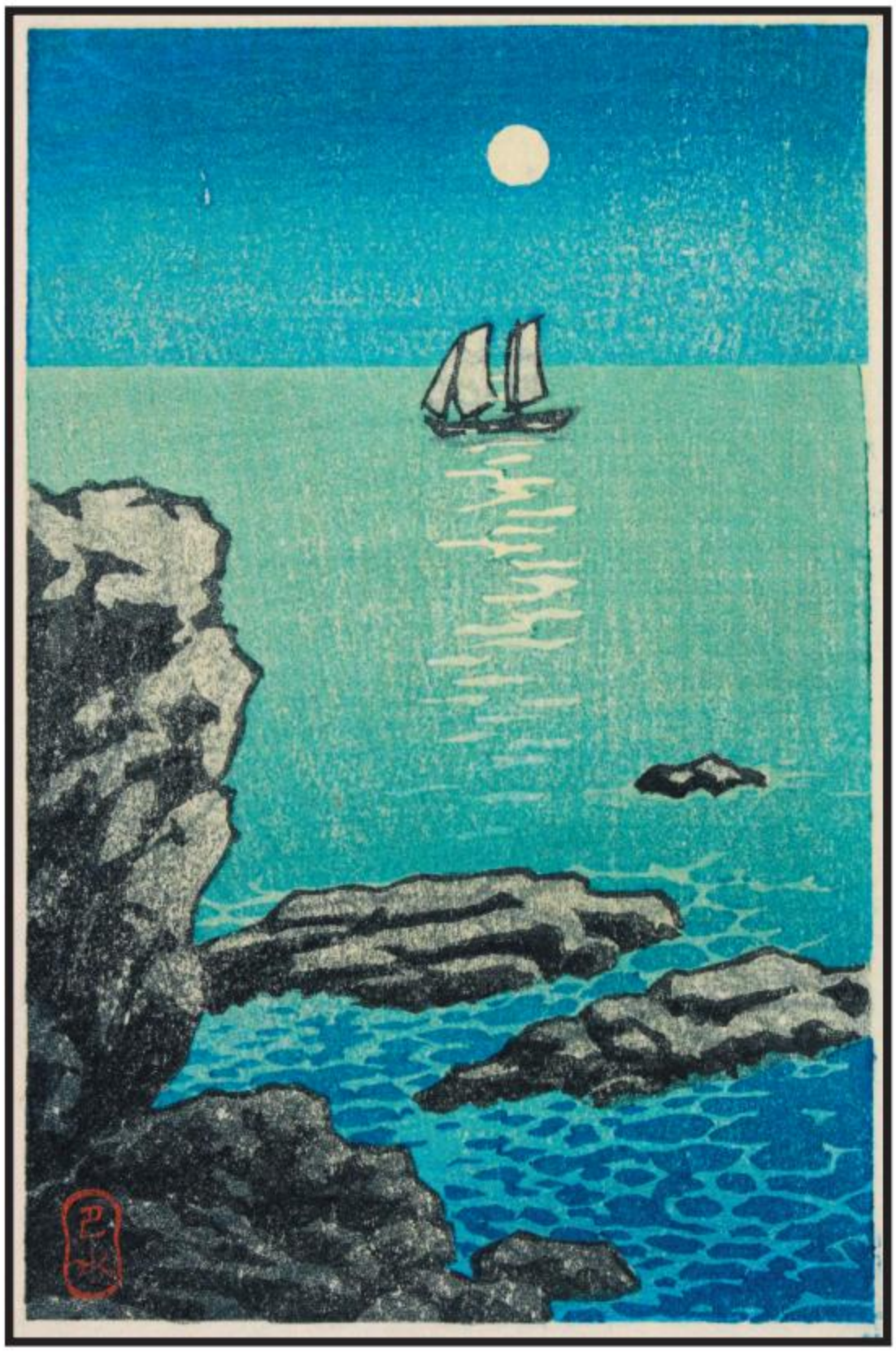
28. Bridge with sail-boat
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 133 x 85 mm, Sheet 147 x 98 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-25.
[42641]
£250



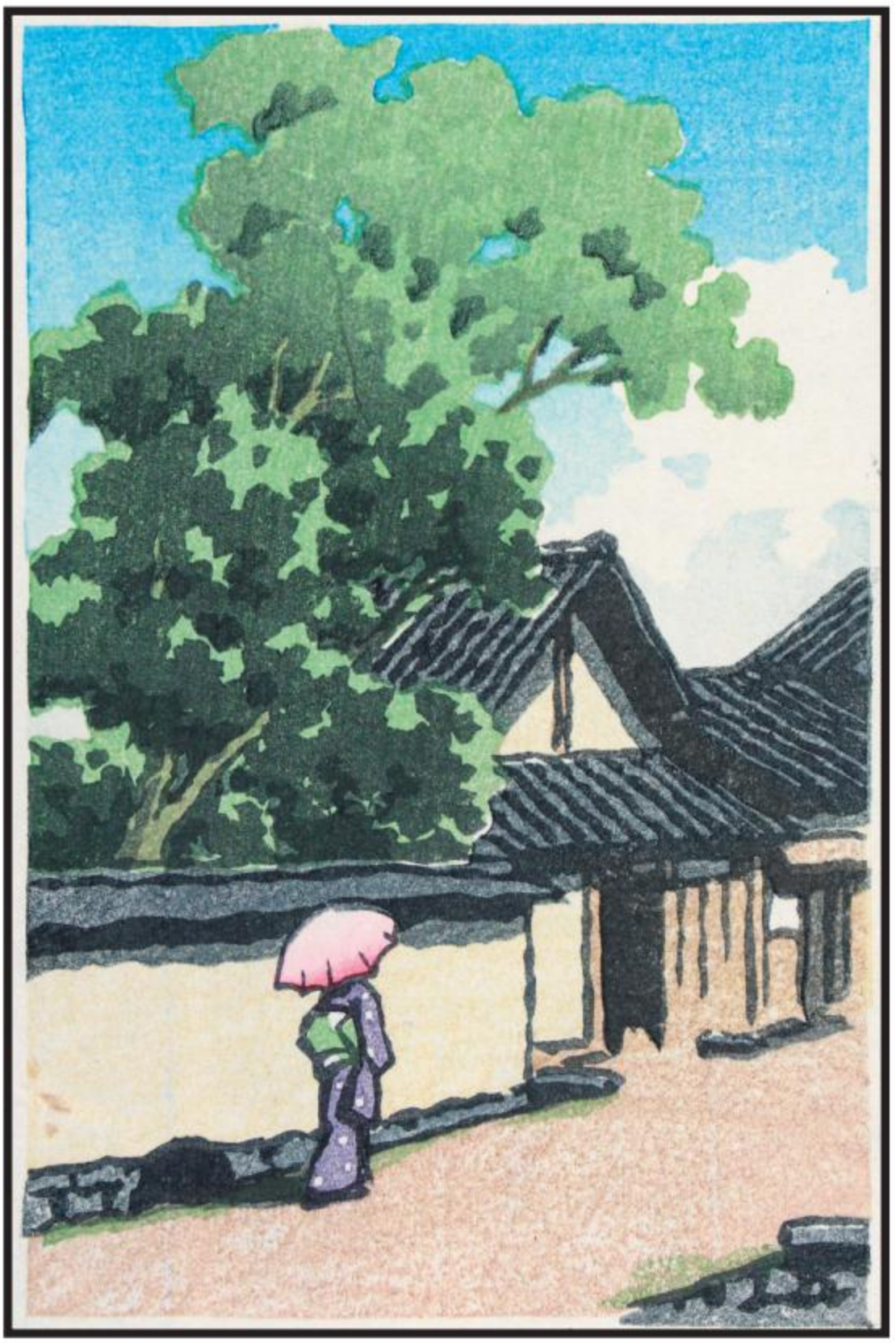
29. Moonlit village along river
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 90 mm, Sheet 145 x 93 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Reference: Brown Hp-22.
[42642]
£300



30. Seascape with full moon
Kawase Hasui
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 142 x 90 mm, Sheet 147 x 97 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: Hasui (type 10)
Reference: Brown Hp-30a (night version of Hp-30).
[42643]
£300



31. Village scene on a bright summer's day
Kawase Hasui
Woodcut
[c. 1930s]
Image 141 x 92 mm, Sheet 146 x 96 mm

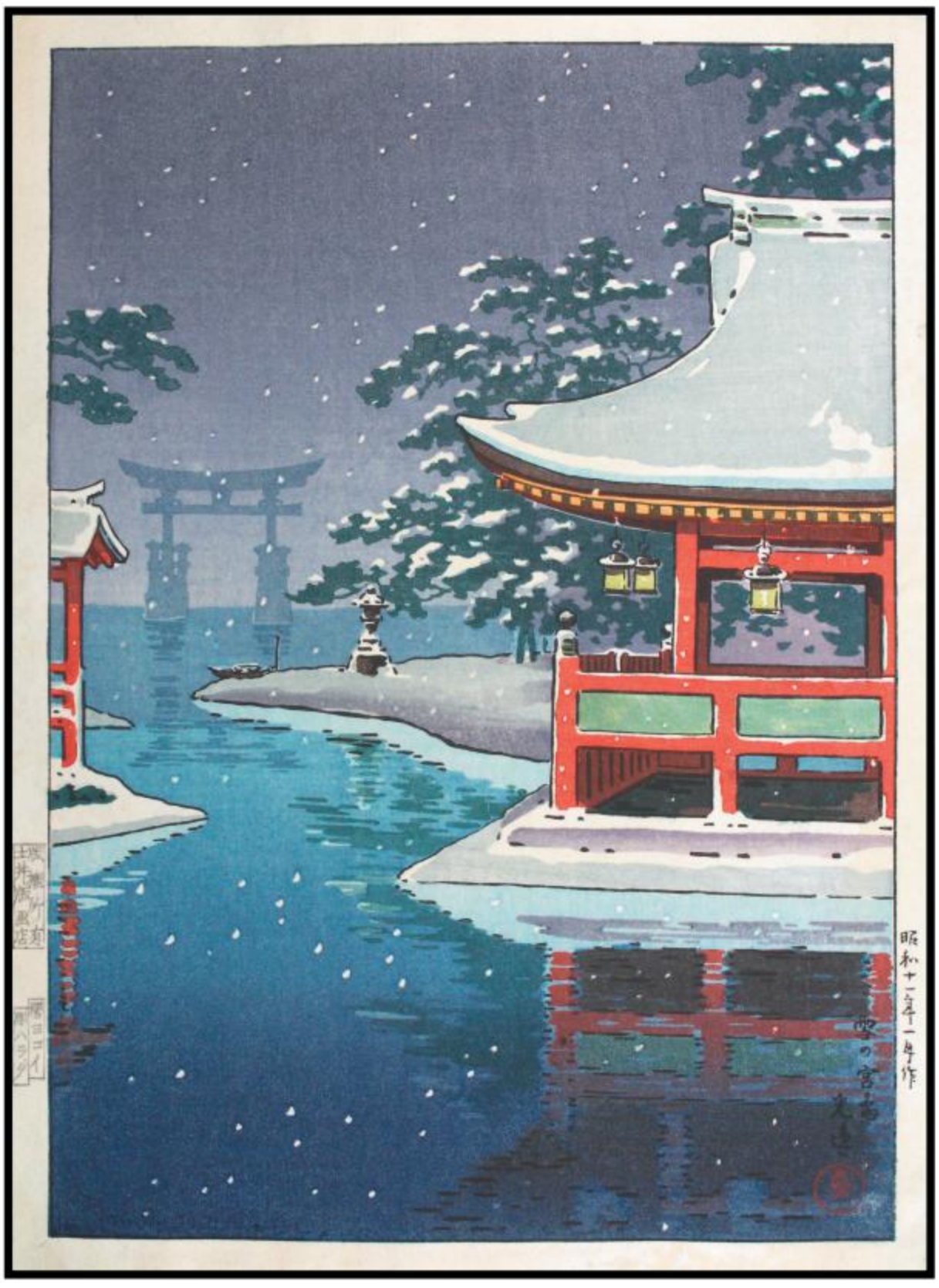
Publisher: Watanabe
Reference: Brown Hp-73.
[42644]
£250

奈良大仏

KŌITSU

Tsuchiya Kōitsu (1870-1949) was born in rural Japan with the given name Koichi. He became a student of the *ukiyo-e* master Kiyochika Kobayashi (1847-1915), with whom he stayed for nineteen years.

From 1931 onwards, Kōitsu became one of a number of artists working for the publisher Shōzaburō Watanabe in the *shin-hanga* style. He also worked for the publishers Doi and Kawaguchi. Kōitsu specialised in landscape prints. In typical *shin-hanga* style, he intensively used the effects of light to create mood and emotion in his work.



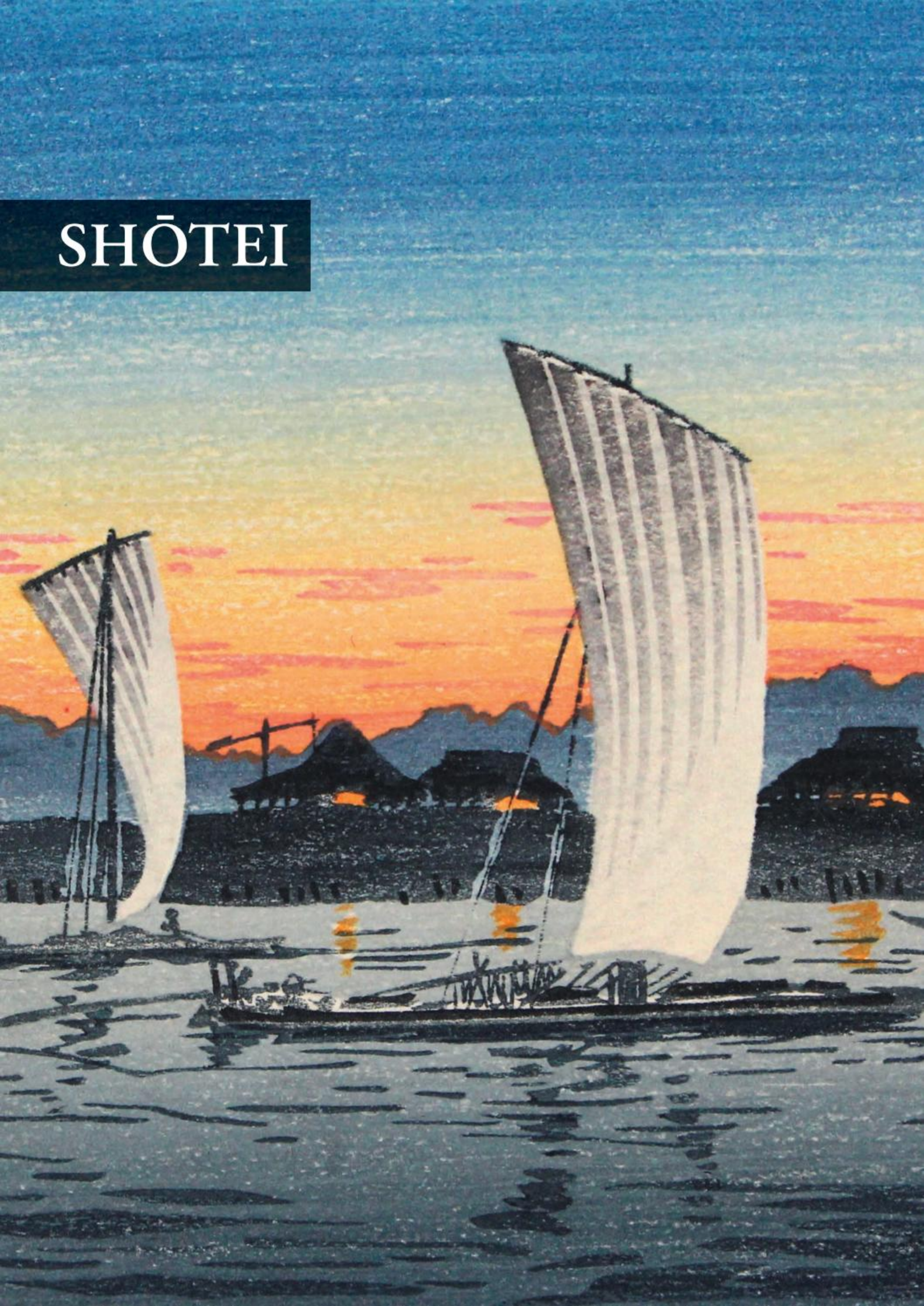
32. Snowy Miyajima
Tsuchiya Kōitsu
Woodblock
1936/1 [post-war impression, 1950-63]
Chuban 10 x 7 1/8 inches (254 x 181 mm)

Publisher: Doi Hangaten
Signature: Tsuchiya Kōitsu
Seal: *Shin* (True)
[42646]
£380

33. Evening at Mii Temple
Tsuchiya Kōitsu
Woodblock
1936/8 [post-war impression, 1950-63]
Chuban 10 x 7 1/8 inches (254 x 181 mm)

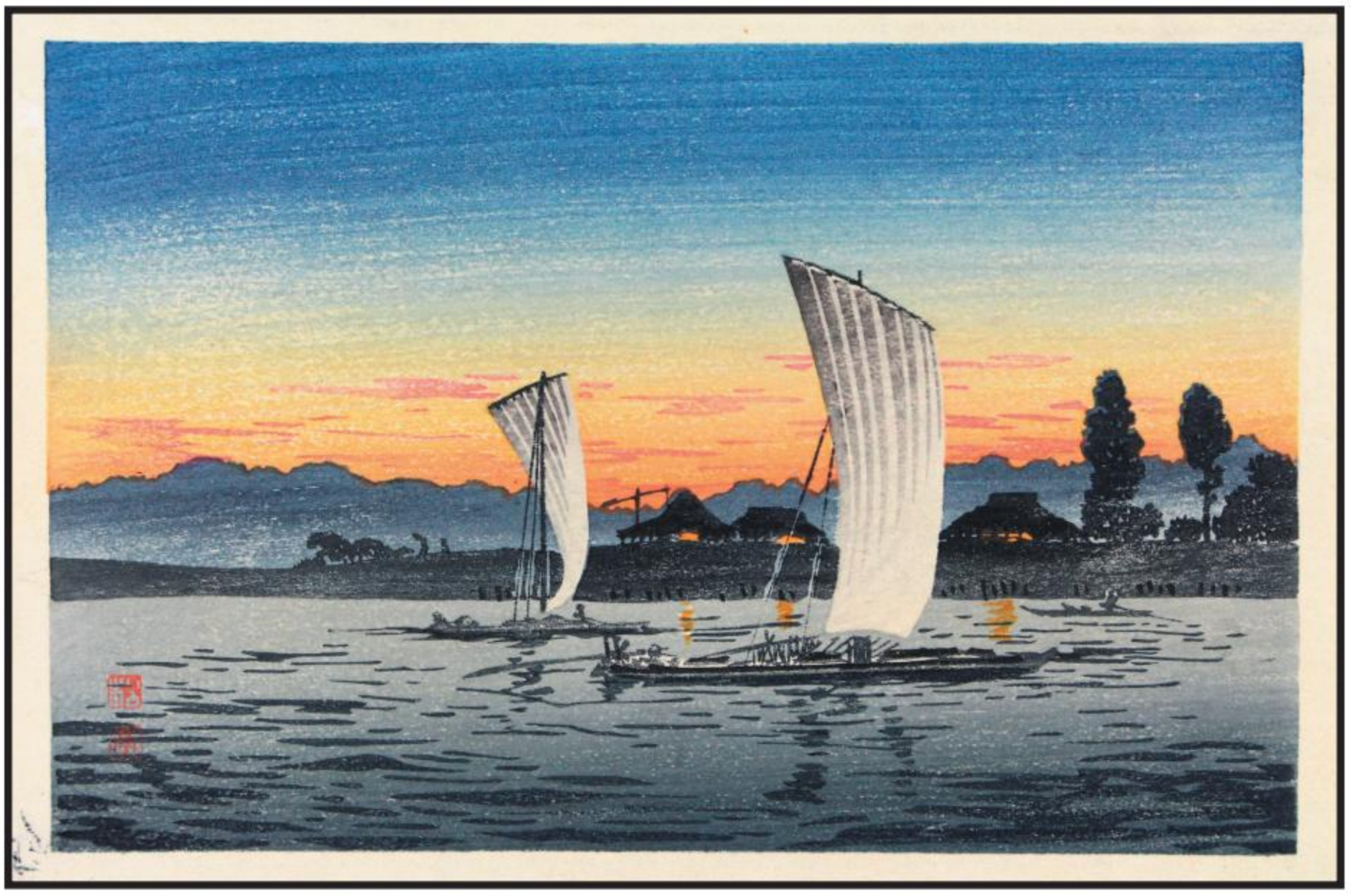
Publisher: Doi Hangaten
Signature: Tsuchiya Kōitsu
Seal: *Shin* (True)
[42647]
£380

SHŌTEI



Takahashi Hiroaki, known as **Shōtei**, (1871-1945) was born Matsumoto Katsutaro in Mukoyanagiwara, Asakusa, Tokyo on 2nd January, 1871. He was the first artist recruited by Shōzaburō Watanabe. Shōtei produced some 500 print designs for Watanabe. When Watanabe's business was destroyed after the 1923 earthquake, Shōtei redesigned 250 prints.

Additionally, in the 1930s, while still working for Watanabe, Shōtei produced almost 200 print designs for the publisher Shōbidō Tanaka. These included 12 *mitsugiri-ban* prints with approximately 180 prints in smaller sizes. His work is typical of other *shin-hanga* artists, focusing on landscapes, dramatic light, and the changing weather and seasons. The popularity of Shōtei's prints resulted in various other publishers and designers copying his work.



34. Homeward bound boats
Takahashi Hiroaki (Shôtei)
Woodblock
[c. 1930s]
Image 94 x 146 mm, Sheet 103 x 157 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: *Sho tei* in double square (Kahn K)
Reference: W-121
[42645]
£200

35. Autumn moon at Tama River
Takahashi Hiroaki (Shôtei)
Woodblock
[c. 1936]
Image 177 x 117 mm, Sheet 182 x 122 mm

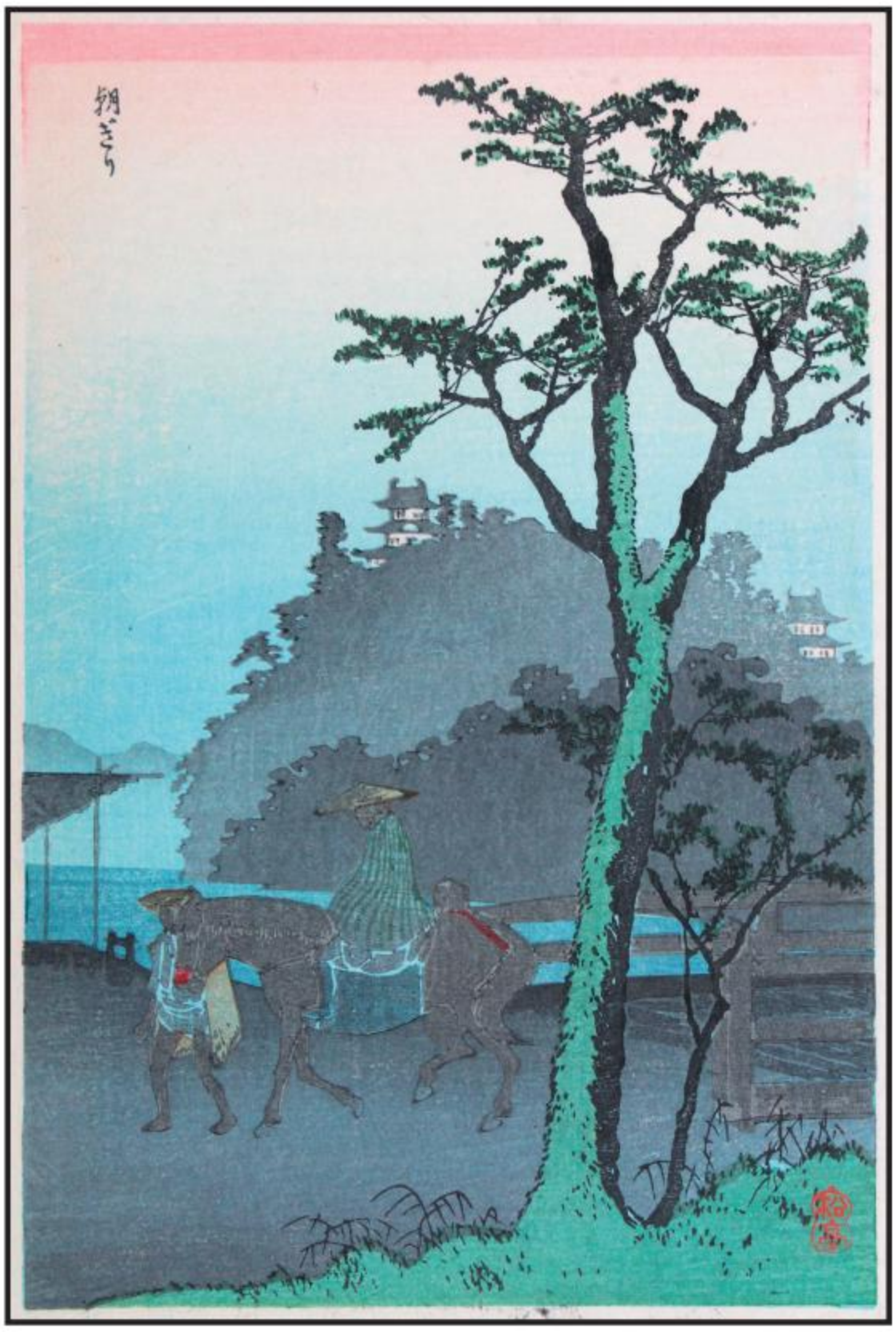
Publisher: Watanabe
Seal: *Sho tei* in gourd (Kahn I)
Reference: W-167
Condition: Tipped to an album page with Watanabe catalogue number affixed.
[42649]
£250

36. A boat with cool-breeze hunters
Takahashi Hiroaki (Shôtei)
Woodblock
[c. 1936]
Image 177 x 118 mm, Sheet 182 x 123 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Signature: Shotei
Seal: *Sho tei* in gourd (Kahn I)
Reference: W-178
Condition: Tipped to an album page with Watanabe catalogue number affixed.
[42650]
£275

37. Singers of popular songs
Takahashi Hiroaki (Shôtei)
Woodblock
[c. 1936]
Image 173 x 117 mm, Sheet 182 x 122 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Signature: Shotei
Seal: *Sho tei* in gourd (Kahn I)
Reference: W-179
Condition: Tipped to an album page with Watanabe catalogue number affixed.
[42651]
£275

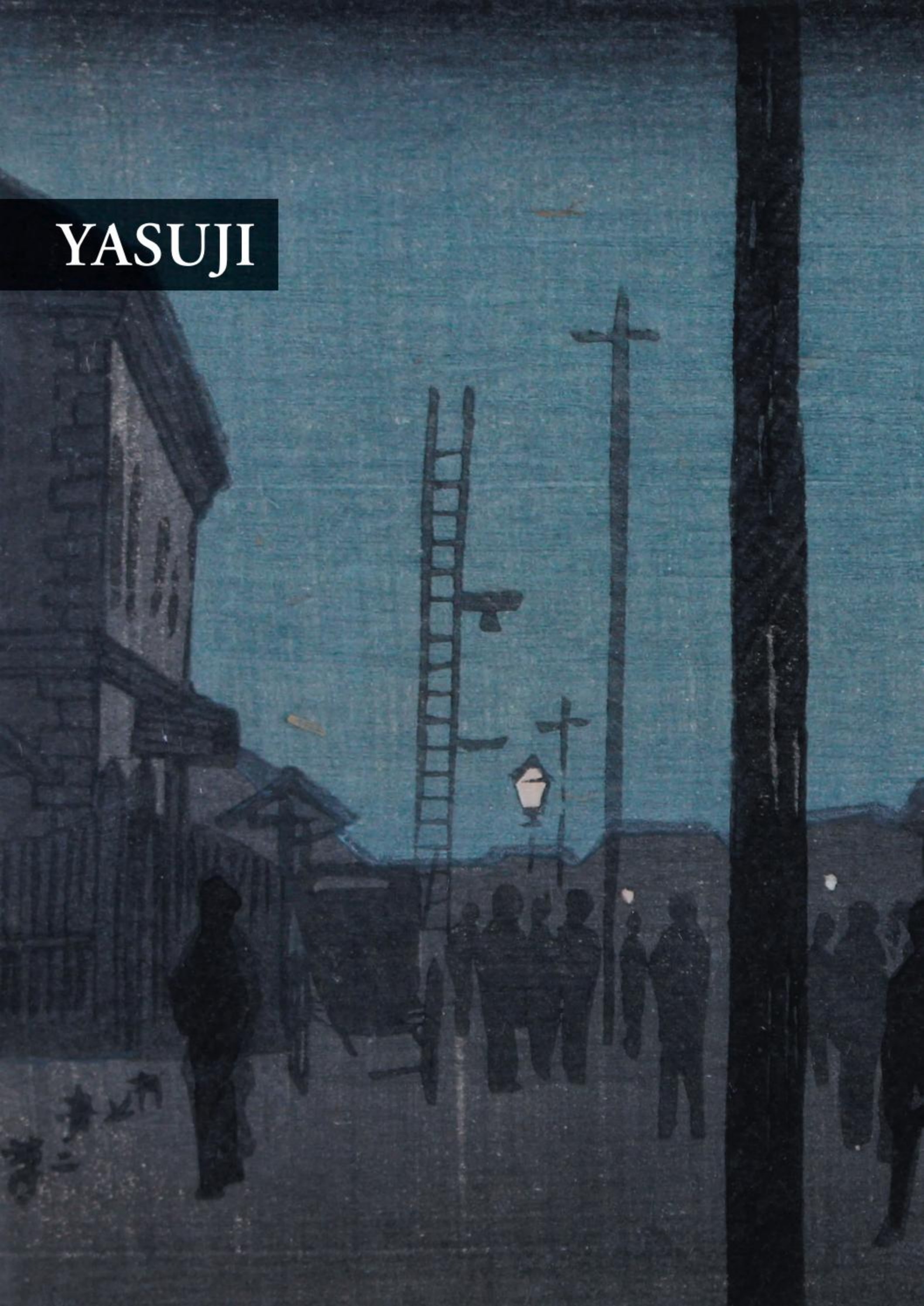


38. Morning Fog
Takahashi Hiroaki (Shôtei)
Woodblock
[c. 1936]
Image 178 x 117 mm, Sheet 183 x 123 mm

Publisher: Watanabe
Signature: Shotei
Seal: *Sho tei* in gourd (Kahn I)
Reference: W-473
Condition: Tipped to an album page with Watanabe catalogue number affixed.
[42652]
£200

納涼
松亭

YASUJI



Inoue Yasuji (1846-1889), sometimes known as Tankei, was the most promising student of Kiyochika Kobayashi. He died at the age of only 25, and as a result, little is known of his personal life. The son of a dry goods merchant, he is said to have studied initially at the printshop of Tsukioka Yoshitoshi. Around 130 works have been attributed to Yasuji, many of which are signed under his birth-name of 'Yasujiro.'

The majority of Yasuji's prints display the strong influence of his master Kobayashi, particularly in their treatment of light and dark, a feature inspired by the increasing influence of Western artists during the Meiji period. Yasuji's short life coincided with a time of great upheaval for Japan, when traditional Japanese printmaking was experiencing its nadir. Yasuji's delicate woodblocks combine many of the elements that would later undergo a revival in the early twentieth century, with the emergence of the *shin-hanga* movement.

39. *Shin-Yoshiwara no kei:* View of Shin-Yoshiwara
Inoue Yasuji (Tankei)
Woodblock
[c. 1880]
Koban 6.75 x 9 inches (171 x 228 mm)

Publisher: Fukuda Kumajiro
[14559]
£300

40. *Kuramae-dori:* Kuramae Street
Inoue Yasuji (Tankei)
Woodblock
[c. 1880]
Koban 6.75 x 9 inches (171 x 228 mm)

Publisher: Fukuda Kumajiro
[14567]
£300

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